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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently amended) An The optical library of claim 12 comprising:
an accommodation rack for accommodating a plurality of disk cartridges;
an optical assembly having:
optical elements necessary for a generation and a detection of a light beam
used to record and reproduce information, and
a mechanism for adjusting a position of the light beam;
a moving mechanism configured to move to a position corresponding to one of the
disk cartridges;
a disk cartridge lock mechanism configured to hold the disk cartridges at a
predetermined position within the optical library, and to eject the disk cartridges outside the
optical library; and
a library-side-connector configured to be fitted into and electrically connected to a
cartridge-side-connector on one of the disk cartridges,

wherein said disk cartridge accommodation rack is configured such that it can be mounted in and detached from the optical library and a part of a frame of said disk cartridge accommodation rack is configured such that it is fitted into said disk cartridge lock mechanism.

14.-19.(Cancelled).

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20. (Currently amended) An optical storage system comprising:

(a) a plurality of disk cartridges, each comprising:

a frame having a hermetically sealed structure;

an optical disk mounted in the frame;

a spindle motor for holding the optical disk rotatable;

an optical head assembly having:

an optical head accessing a surface of said optical disk, and

a seeking mechanism for positioning the optical head at a specified track on said optical disk;

a cartridge-side-connector disposed on said frame; and

an optical window mounted on said frame, and

(b) an optical library comprising:

an accommodation rack for respectively accommodating said plurality of disk cartridges;

an optical assembly having:

optical elements for a generation and a detection of a light beam used to record and reproduce information, and

a mechanism for adjusting a position of the light beam;

a moving mechanism for moving and holding the optical assembly to and at a position corresponding to one of said disk cartridges;

disk cartridge lock mechanisms holding said disk cartridges at predetermined positions within said optical library, and exhausting ejecting said disk cartridges outside said optical library; and

library-side-connectors, each being fitted into and electrically connected to said cartridge-side-connector.

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21. (Original) The optical storage system of claim 20, wherein each of said frames of said disk cartridges further comprises a structure that a part of said frame is fitted into one of the disk cartridge lock mechanisms.

22. (Original) The optical storage system of claim 20, wherein each of said disk cartridges further comprises a filter member for catching particles comprising one of dust, oil mist, vapor and bacteria.

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